

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-22. (Canceled).

23. (Previously Presented) A trolley control wheel assembly as claimed in Claim 49, wherein the load center of the trolley and the center of the array of castors coincide.

24 (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) A trolley control wheel assembly as claimed in Claim 49, wherein a force of the bias means does not exceed the weight of an empty trolley.

26. (Previously Presented) A trolley control wheel assembly as claimed in Claim 49, wherein the bias means is biased downwards towards the surface on which the trolley is intended to travel.

27. (Previously Presented) A trolley control wheel assembly as claimed in Claim 49, wherein the trolley has four castors disposed in the vicinity of the corners of the trolley.

28. (Previously Presented) A trolley control wheel assembly as claimed in Claim 49, wherein the fixed wheel rotates about a horizontal axis but cannot rotate about a vertical axis.

29. (Previously Presented) A trolley control wheel assembly as claimed in Claim 48, wherein in order to facilitate lateral maneuvering of a trolley, said wheel assembly further comprises a lifting means to lift the fixed wheel of the control wheel assembly out of contact with a travel surface to enable the trolley to be readily moved at right angles to a desired direction of movement or travel.

30. (Canceled).

31. (Canceled).

32. (Previously Presented) A trolley as claimed in Claim 50, wherein the load center of the trolley and the center of the array of castors coincide.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) A trolley as claimed in Claim 50, wherein the trolley has four castors disposed in the vicinity of the corners of the trolley.

35. (Previously Presented) A trolley as claimed in Claim 50, wherein in order to facilitate lateral maneuvering of a trolley, said wheel assembly further comprises a lifting means to lift the wheel of the control wheel assembly out of contact with a travel surface to enable the trolley to be readily moved at right angles to the customary desired direction of movement or travel.

36. (Canceled).

37. (Previously Presented) A trolley as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the load center of the trolley and the center of the array of castors coincide.

38 (Canceled)

39. (Previously Presented) A trolley as claimed in Claim 52, wherein the trolley has four castors disposed in the vicinity of the corners of the trolley.

40. (Previously Presented) A trolley as claimed in Claim 52, wherein in order to facilitate lateral maneuvering of a trolley, said wheel assembly further comprises a lifting means to lift the wheel of the control wheel assembly out of contact with a travel surface to enable the trolley to be readily moved at right angles to a desired direction of movement or travel.

41. – 47. (Canceled).

48. (Currently Amended) A trolley control wheel assembly adapted to be fitted to a trolley having a longitudinal axis of travel and an array of castors having respective castor wheels, said assembly comprising:

a ~~fixed~~ wheel having a fixed axis of rotation with respect to said trolley adapted to be disposed in use on a the trolley in a vicinity of one of a load center of the trolley and a center of the array of castors, and

a self-contained gas strut independent of the castors and operable to provide controlled contact between the fixed wheel and a surface on which the trolley is intended to travel wherein said strut is positioned perpendicular to said fixed axis to provide a co-linear arrangement with a force provided by said strut is being independent of a load of said trolley and is less than a weight on an empty trolley.

49. (Currently Amended) A trolley control wheel assembly adapted to be fitted to a trolley having a longitudinal axis of travel and an array of castors, said assembly comprising:

a ~~fixed~~ wheel having a fixed axis of rotation with respect to said trolley in the vicinity of the load center of the trolley or the center of the array of castors, and

a bias means and a damping means to provide controlled contact between the fixed wheel and a surface on which the trolley is intended to travel, wherein the bias means and the damping means jointly comprise a self-contained gas strut independent of any other wheel wherein said strut is positioned perpendicular to said fixed axis to provide a co-linear arrangement with a force provided by said strut is being independent of a load of said trolley and is less than a weight on an empty trolley.

50. (Currently Amended) A trolley having a longitudinal axis of travel, comprising:

an array of castors fitted thereto, and

a trolley control wheel assembly comprising:

a ~~fixed~~ wheel having a fixed axis of rotation with respect to said trolley fixed at a position in the vicinity of a load center of the trolley or a center of the array of castors; and

a bias means and a damping means to provide controlled contact between the wheel and a surface on which the trolley is intended to travel, wherein the bias means and the damping means jointly comprise a self-contained gas strut independent of any other wheel wherein said strut is positioned perpendicular to said fixed axis to provide a co-linear arrangement with a force provided by said strut is being independent of a load of said trolley and is less than a weight on an empty trolley.

51. (Currently Amended) A cart having a longitudinal axis of travel, comprising:

an array of castors fitted thereto, and

a trolley control wheel assembly which comprises:

a ~~fixed~~ wheel having a fixed axis of rotation with respect to said cart adapted to be disposed in use on a trolley in a vicinity of one of a load center of the trolley and a center of the array of castors, and

a self-contained gas strut independent of the castors and operable to provide controlled contact between the fixed wheel and a surface on which the trolley is intended to travel wherein said strut is positioned perpendicular to said fixed axis to provide a co-linear arrangement with a force provided by said strut is being independent of a load of said trolley and ~~is~~ less than a weight on an empty trolley.

52. (Currently Amended) A trolley having a longitudinal axis of travel and having an array of castors on which the trolley can be moved from place to place in a general direction of the longitudinal axis of the trolley, the improvement which comprises:

a control wheel assembly comprising a ~~fixed~~ having a fixed axis of rotation with respect to said trolley wheel fixed at a position in the vicinity of a load center of the trolley or a center of the array of castors and a bias means and a damping means to provide controlled contact between the wheel and a surface on which the trolley is intended to travel, wherein the bias means and the damping means jointly comprise a self-contained gas strut independent of any other wheel wherein said strut is positioned perpendicular to said fixed axis to provide a co-linear arrangement with a force provided by said strut is being independent of a load of said trolley and ~~is~~ less than a weight on an empty trolley.

53. (Currently Amended) A castored trolley control wheel assembly which includes a ~~fixed~~ wheel having a fixed axis of rotation with respect to said trolley, a bias means and a damping means to provide controlled contact between

the wheel and a surface on which the trolley is intended to travel, wherein the bias means and the damping means jointly comprise a self-contained gas strut independent of any other wheel wherein said strut is positioned perpendicular to said fixed axis to provide a co-linear arrangement with a force provided by said strut is independent of a load of said trolley and is being less than a weight on an empty trolley.

54. (Currently Amended) A trolley control wheel assembly adapted to be fitted to a trolley having a longitudinal axis of travel and an array of castors, said assembly comprising a plurality of wheels ~~fixed~~ having a fixed axis of rotation with respect to said trolley in the vicinity of a load center of the trolley or a center of the array of castors, each wheel having a bias means and a damping means to provide controlled contact between the fixed wheel and a surface on which the trolley is intended to travel, wherein the bias means and the damping means jointly comprise a self-contained gas strut independent of any other wheel wherein said strut is positioned perpendicular to said fixed axis to provide a co-linear arrangement with a force provided by said strut ~~is~~ being independent of a load of said trolley and is less than a weight on an empty trolley.

55. (Currently Amended) A trolley having a longitudinal axis of travel, comprising:

an array of castors fitted thereto, and

a trolley control wheel assembly comprising a plurality of wheels ~~fixed~~ having a fixed axis of rotation with respect to said trolley at a position in the vicinity of a load center of the trolley or a center of the array of castors, each wheel having a bias means and a damping means to provide controlled contact between the wheel and a surface on which the trolley is intended to travel, wherein the bias means and the damping means jointly comprise a self-

contained gas strut independent of any other wheel wherein said strut is positioned perpendicular to said fixed axis to provide a co-linear arrangement with a force provided by said strut is being independent of a load of said trolley and ~~is~~ less than a weight on an empty trolley.

56. (Currently Amended) A trolley having a longitudinal axis of travel and having an array of castors on which the trolley can be moved from place to place in a general direction of the longitudinal axis of the trolley or otherwise, the improvement which comprises:

a control wheel assembly comprising a plurality of wheels ~~fixed~~ having a fixed axis of rotation with respect to said trolley at a position in the vicinity of a load center of the trolley or a center of the array of castors, each wheel having a bias means and a damping means to provide controlled contact between the wheel and a surface on which the trolley is intended to travel, wherein the bias means and the damping means jointly comprise a self-contained gas strut independent of any other wheel wherein said strut is positioned perpendicular to said fixed axis to provide a co-linear arrangement with a force provided by said strut is being independent of a load of said trolley and ~~is~~ less than a weight on an empty trolley.

57. (Currently Amended) A castored trolley control wheel assembly which includes a plurality of ~~fixed fixed~~ having a fixed axis of rotation with respect to said trolley wheels, each wheel having a bias means and a damping means to provide controlled contact between the wheel and a surface on which the trolley is intended to travel, wherein the bias means and the damping means jointly comprise a self-contained gas strut independent of any other wheel wherein said strut is positioned perpendicular to said fixed axis to provide a co-linear arrangement with a force provided by said strut is being independent of a load of said trolley and ~~is~~ less than a weight on an empty trolley.

58. (Currently Amended) A trolley control wheel assembly adapted to be fitted to a trolley having a longitudinal axis of travel and an array of castors having respective castor wheels, said assembly comprising:

a ~~fixed~~ wheel having a fixed axis of rotation with respect to said trolley adapted to be disposed in use on a trolley;

a self-contained gas strut independent of the castors and operable to provide controlled contact between the fixed wheel and a surface on which the trolley is intended to travel; and

a castor wheel on each side of the self-contained gas strut wherein said strut is positioned perpendicular to said fixed axis to provide a co-linear arrangement with a force provided by said strut is independent of a load of said trolley and is less than a weight on an empty trolley.

59. (Currently Amended) A trolley control wheel assembly adapted to be fitted to a trolley having a longitudinal axis of travel and an array of castors having respective castor wheels, said assembly comprising:

two ~~fixed~~ wheels, each ~~fixed~~ wheel having a fixed axis of rotation with respect to said trolley adapted to be disposed in use on a side of a trolley chassis;

two self-contained gas strut independent of the castors, wherein each self-contained gas strut is coupled to a fixed wheel and is operable to provide controlled contact between the fixed wheel and a surface on which the trolley is intended to travel wherein said strut is positioned perpendicular to said fixed axis to provide a co-linear arrangement with a force provided by said strut is being independent of a load of said trolley and is less than a weight on an empty trolley.